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Jill Burd, Volunteer Coordinator

Jamie Deats, Foster Coordinator

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Giving Tuesday - December 2

Giving Tuesday is tomorrow, December 2. We are kicking off our special \$10 in 10 days, December 2 to 12th, in celebration of our 10th Anniversary program. All donations will be matched up to \$5000. This giving campaign is dedicated to the funding of the FOCCAS Distressed Animal Program (DAP). This program allows our rescue to provide much-needed medical care for pets that are injured or very ill. Often, it is an acute injury requiring surgery or immediate intervention. Just as frequently, the issue is chronic and a long-term health condition that has never been addressed. This could be treating heartworms, entropion, severe skin issues, and many others. These pets are expensive to treat, and we dedicate 50% of our budget each year to fund this program. In 2025, year-to-date, our DAP covered the medical costs for 34 dogs and 10 cats, totaling \$47,283.53. This is a cost increase of over 77% from 2024.



We still have 4 weeks to go! Here's how to give:

- On our website <https://foccas-tn.org/donate>
- Venmo @FOCCASTN
- By Mail -Focus On Cumberland County Animal Safety,
PO Box 3245, Crossville, TN 38557
- In Person at Dr. Hendrixson's office, 707 S Main St,
Crossville, TN 38555

Remember The Ones Still in Rescue

FOCCAS is hosting our Second Annual Santa Paws Market. It is being held at The Cumberland County Community Complex located at 1398 Livingston Road (Friday), December 5th, 9:00 to 4:00 & (Saturday), December 6th, 9:00 to 2:00.



We have added something new this year a special tree featuring dogs & cats that have been at FOCCAS Rescue a great deal of time. We are calling the tree "REMEMBER THE ONES STILL IN RESCUE". Some of these rescue animals have been with FOCCAS Rescue for many years.

We are always hopeful that all animals in rescue get adopted, but sadly, that is not the case. We are bringing attention to these special fur babies who remain in the care of our rescue, while they patiently wait for new owners to adopt them. The expense of caring for long-term rescue animals is a hefty reality. If the animals are not sick with additional vet bills, there is food, preventative medication & annual shots. It is difficult to put a dollar amount on their ongoing care, but it is easily over \$150.00 per month per animal.

As you view our special tree with pictures of these great rescue animals & how long they have been in our care, our hope is that you would like to help with a donation in honor of the animal that caught your heart. Even better would be you would like to adopt one of these most special fur babies & give them the good life they deserve. Please attend our Santa Paws Market & plan to spend time viewing our tree, getting to know "THE ONES STILL IN RESCUE".

Our Recent Adoptions



Annie



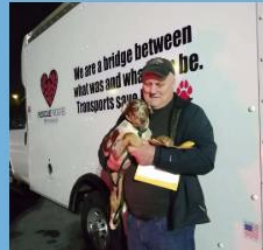
Logan



Logan



Madison



Dandy is so happy to be with his forever Dad!!!



Logan



Georgia



Hannah



Shai



Rinkv



Sadie



Sadie



Sadie



RIFI



RIFI



Gabby



Blondie



Gabby



Rhett



Rico

THE 3 DAYS, 3 WEEKS, 3 MONTHS RULE OF ADOPTING A RESCUE DOG

The 3-3-3 Rule is a general guideline of the decompression process for a Canine in a new environment.

Every dog is unique and will adjust differently, so give them space and allow them to go at their own pace!

3D

THE FIRST 3 DAYS,

GIVE THEM SPACE

SET YOUR BOUNDARIES EARLY

STAY CALM AND GIVE CLEAR DIRECTION

START YOUR DAILY ROUTINE RIGHT AWAY

DO NOT FORCE INTERACTION

BE PATIENT AND STAY POSITIVE

3W

AFTER 3 WEEKS,

WILL FEEL MORE SETTLED

WILL START TO TEST BOUNDARIES

WORK BASIC O (SIT, WAIT, DOWN, COME)

GIVE CLEAR DIRECTION AT ALL TIMES

GIVE CALM, CLEAR FEEDBACK TO THEM ON WHEN THEY ARE MISBEHAVING

PRaise EVERY SUCCESS!

3M

AFTER 3 MONTHS,

WILL START TO TRUST NEW HOME

WILL UNDERSTAND ROUTINE

DO NOT EASE OFF TRAINING, MORE IS BETTER!

WILL BEGIN TO BUILD BOND- USE AFFECTION AS A RESOURCE!

WILL BEGIN TO BUILD GREAT HABITS IF YOU FOLLOW THIS!

It's going to take some time - The 3, 3, 3 Rule

The "3-3-3 rule" in dog rescue is a guideline for the emotional adjustment of an adopted dog: 3 days for them to decompress and feel overwhelmed, 3 weeks to start learning your routine and bonding, and 3 months to feel at home and truly comfortable. It helps adopters understand that the initial days will likely be challenging, but with patience and consistency, the dog will gradually settle in.

Ready to Join the FOCCAS Family?

Donate



Volunteer



Foster





It Takes A Special Foster, and She Is – Vickie Powell

Vicki Powell is a blessing to many rescues and shelters from Nashville to Knoxville. She has a passion for fostering and has dedicated herself to saving lives for the past 6 years. Vicki is a special kind of fosterer who only takes in pregnant mama dogs, neonatal puppies, cleft palate puppies, and orphans. She keeps the puppies until it's time for them to be weaned, and they have had their distemper/parvo vaccinations and worming. Currently, Vicki has 2 mamas - a heeler from FOCCAS (Dottie) and a basset/beagle from another rescue. They will probably be giving birth about the same time. The largest number of pregnant dogs that she has dealt with at one time is 5. Now that's a lot of babies! Vicki is also associated with A Time for Paws.

FOCCAS would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for helping us most recently with Dottie and Clover (and many others). You are truly a lifesaver, Vicki!

Pickle For Paws Raises \$1345 for FOCCAS

The Pickleball tournament event was great fun, and the happy faces of the participants, attendees, volunteers, and pups say it was a great success! Kudos to Jamie and all of her friends and volunteers. Well done and thank you!

The pickleball event was a great first effort—beautiful day to play. I appreciate everyone who came and helped during the event. We raised \$1345, which is a pretty good haul for 3 hours.

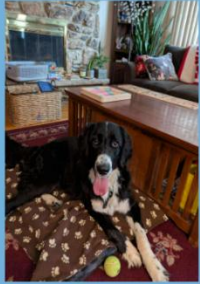


The Dogs Marched in Celebration and Thanks to Our Veterans



Happy Tales

We love seeing and hearing the wonderful stories you share of your FOCCAS pets. It warms our hearts to see how happy the pets and the people are now that they have found their furever homes. Please share your pictures and stories with us at foccasnewsletter@gmail.com.

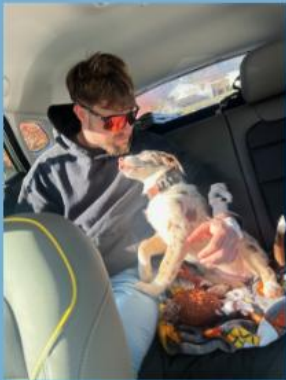


Auggie (Left) - Thought I would share these photos of Auggie from her forever family. She recently met their 3-year-old granddaughter. She is settling in nicely.

Pappy (Right) Hey, I'd like to give y'all a brief update on Pappy's new sleeping arrangement. He is like an Amish wedding bed where they have a board between them for a while. He sleeps between my wife and me every night, and we love his cute little snore. Thank you all again for all that you do, The Moores



Tasia (Right)- We just wanted to share some recent photos of Tasia. She is a precious girl, and we are blessed to have her in our family. Aletha Walter



Gabby(Left) is now called **Veda**. Things are actually going excellently... she is potty trained, crate trained, knows the following commands: sit, stay, down, shake paw, rollover, safety, spin, and crate. I work with her every day on her commands. She is the smartest puppy I have ever owned. She's living her best life!! Thank you all for everything. She's brought us so much joy.



Just got an update on April! She has gotten so big and is doing great in her new home!



Kiwi loving life



How do I get my dog to behave?

You call Mary Dohaney of Pawsable Results. She helps us get our dogs ready for adoption, and she is ready to help you. Training sessions can be at your home or at a public location, group sessions, or via virtual methods, such as FaceTime, WhatsApp, Skype, etc. If you have a dog with behaviors that you cannot correct, then please give her a call. Pawsable Results (904) 334 - 0029.. She is one of the heroes who make FOCCAS work. Mary Dohaney of Pawsable Results has been working with us for years, and the results are amazing. Mary is a certified Dog Trainer and an active member of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers (APDT). She has a passion for animals of all kinds and is dedicated to helping others bring out the best in their canine companions.





Volunteer Spotlight - He Wears Many Hats

December's fosterer of the month is a man who fills many roles for FOCCAS - Jerry Lytle. He is a transporter, a fosterer extraordinaire, a chauffeur, and a dog walker. Jerry hails from Indiana (is that where his southern drawl came from?) and has lived in Tennessee for 10 years. When he first arrived, he began working for A Time for Paws when they still adopted out dogs. Soon after, he met Jan Hendrixson, and he has been a fixture at FOCCAS ever since. Jerry was asked why he keeps volunteering with the rescue, and his response was "I guess I have a gift for things that others find difficult". Every animal rescue volunteer can attest to how difficult the work is, but Jerry seems to have a deep connection with the dogs. He even rebuilt his home to rescue more dogs and has expanded his fenced-in yard to give his fosters more room to run.

He prefers to foster adult dogs - old, feral, broken - it doesn't matter. He will tackle the most challenging cases. Jerry's main goal is to give the dogs who have been in rescue the longest a sense of home. He likes to think of that as the 'Scooby Do Clause', which is providing a home-like environment to the dogs who probably won't be going anywhere due to health or behavior. This is his vision for some of the dogs

at the rescue, and if anyone can pull it off, Jerry can. Thank you, Jerry, for your dedication to FOCCAS rescue!

Get Your Holiday Off to a Great Start at the Santa Paws Market

FOCCAS Santa Paws Market is December 5 (9-4) and December 6 (9-2) at the Cumberland Community Complex. FREE admission for this inside event. There will be a variety of handcrafted items, great for your holiday gift-giving. Santa will be there on December 5 from noon to 4:00 pm. He will be at FOCCAS Santa Paws Market, available for pictures with you and your 2 and 4-legged friends. They will make a wonderful holiday card. #PetAdoption #foccasrescue #FOCCASSantaPawsMarket Your Holiday Off to a Great Start with Santa Paws Market.



Have an article for the newsletter?

We love hearing from our FOCCAS family. Whether it is for our Happy Tails or an idea for a fundraising event like the Pickle for Paws, we can't do this without you. Please send all articles and pictures to foccasnewsletter@gmail.com.



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